

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

Congressman Crain of Texas is in Washington City.

HIS VIEW ON THE SPEAKERSHIP.

A Congressman on "the Inside" Talks About Harrison and Blaine.

Blaine, he says, will accept the nomination only upon one condition, and that is that it must come from a party united.

William Henry Crain.

Special to the Gazette.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Congressman Crain of Texas, on a short visit to the city, was interviewed by the staff of the Gazette.

He is both a politician and a good organizer.

Speaking to the correspondent of the Gazette, Mr. Crain said that he was in the city for the purpose of making a study of the speakership.

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THE PRESS GANG.

Second Day's Proceedings of the Corsicana Convention.

QUESTION OF DIGNITY AIRED.

The Texas Press and Its Work for Texas—Proposed World's Fair Exhibit.

San Antonio Gets the Next State Convention—Hon. E. C. Mills Elected an Honorary Member—A Ride to Fish Lake No. 2.

Special to the Gazette.

CORSICANA, Tex., May 13.—When the press association convened this morning the report of the executive committee, which was the special order for consideration, was read and the entire morning was occupied in discussing and debating the report.

The recommendation that all past presidents of the association be life members was adopted, as was also the recommendation that the newly elected president appoint delegates to the national press convention before the final adjournment of the state convention.

The recommendation of the executive committee that in the future all members attending a convention liquidate their own hotel bill, thus placing the press association in a financial position to take care of other state associations, involved a lively discussion.

After a parliamentary skirmish for about an hour the committee's recommendation was laid on the table.

The recommendation that the matter of transportation be made the duty of a transportation committee, thus relieving the secretary, was laid on the table.

The convention adjourned until 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

The following resolution, introduced by William Blackless of Hallettsville, was passed.

Whereas, the Texas press has been in the vanguard in advertising the great interests of a great state, and realizing that in the World's fair to be held in the city of Chicago a grand opportunity is afforded to show the world what Texas is today, through the instrumentality of the Texas press; therefore be it

Resolved, that the executive committee take into consideration the important subject, and formulate a plan by which the Texas press association through its members may make an exhibit creditable to our state and our association.

The selection of the place for the association's next convention was then considered, and the grandeur and hospitality of Abilene, Austin, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Dallas and Corpus Christi were discussed by their respective representatives, and upon ballot it was discovered that the Abilene City had won the day, and the next convention will be held there.

Just after the settlement of this question R. M. Johnson of Houston arose and paid a glowing tribute to the many virtues and political prestige of Hon. E. C. Mills, and offered an amendment to the resolution making him an honorary member.

A distinguished gentleman, that great tribune of the people and one of the greatest exponents of the people's rights, J. H. Cuyler of San Antonio, in seconding the motion, compared Mr. Mills to the grand old man Gladstone, and declared him the greatest and noblest statesman of today.

He was unanimously elected an honorary member.

Preparations having been completed to convey all the members to an entertainment at the Hotel El Comodoro, the convention adjourned and departed in carriages for said lake, where there was a feast of reason and a flow of soul.

W. C. T. U.

The Ladies Assembled in Convention in Tyler—The Programme for To-Day, and Work of Yesterday.

Special to the Gazette.

TYLER, Tex., May 13.—The state convention of the W. C. T. U. convened this afternoon at 2 o'clock and about fifty delegates are attending.

The executive committee met this morning at 9 o'clock and transacted business of importance to the convention only.

The general body was called to order by the president, Mrs. M. L. McKnight.

Report of committees on credentials, introduction of strangers to the convention, and reports of state superintendents; report of Mrs. J. H. Cuyler, president of the Texas association, was read.

This evening at 8 o'clock Mrs. Mary Coyne delivered the address of welcome and Mrs. A. G. Ottomann responded.

Mrs. Lizzie Houghton, state evangelist, presided over the evening session.

The following is the programme of the convention for tomorrow:

MORNING SESSION.

Devotional—Mrs. M. L. McKnight.

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Forest Fires Eating Up Everything in Their Paths.

THOUSANDS MADE HOMELESS.

People in Many Communities and Towns Barely Escape With Their Lives, After

A Determined and Ceaseless Fight for Two Days and Nights—A Deluge the Only Possible Means of Stopping the Fires.

Not Yet Under Control.

BALDWIN, Mich., May 13.—Forest fires still are not under control. Thompsonville is not entirely out of danger, but citizens are fighting fire around town and doing all possible to prevent it getting into the village.

Warren's log railway, eight miles north of here, is in imminent danger, should the wind shift to the north.

To-day several hundred came in from the country with the same story—that of losing all buildings and their contents, and escaping with what they had on their backs.

It is a fearful sight to see the condition in which some of the towns are.

Towns along the Frankfort and South-eastern railway are in danger, as fires are reported along the entire road.

Fire west of Manistee Junction are out, and no more danger is feared in that direction.

Stier's camp, six miles west, suffered a large loss, after a fight for three days.

In some cases the houses have been asked of railway companies for fire sufferers to be transported to places where they have friends, they not being able to save more than the clothes they wore.

Michigan Towns Surround.

DETROIT, Mich., May 13.—Clare county, and Walkerville, Oceana county, towns of 1000 inhabitants each, are added to the list of those surrounded by forest fires.

The fire in the latter town is not easily to be reckoned that has been lost in the destructive forest fires.

At present there is little hope that the fire can be stopped, and the entire lumber district of four or five counties lies at its mercy.

There has been little rain this season, and the country is in the same condition it was when it was devastated in 1927.

A Repetition of 1871.

BIO RAPIDS, Mich., May 13.—Fires in the woods here have been fully as disastrous as those in 1871. At Boyer station, three miles from here, a track six miles long and three miles wide has been burned over, destroying everything.

Four farm houses and barns were burned.

At Paris the entire town has frequently been called out to fight fire in order to save the town.

Settlers hereabouts have been driven from their homes, having absolutely nothing.

Piney in New Jersey.

ASBURY PARK, N. J., May 13.—A big fire started to-day in the pine woods back of Asbury Park. It is spreading rapidly toward Edison and Long Branch.

There is a Mafia.

Its Branches Extending to South America.

An Entire Family Slaughtered by the Fenish Order.

NEW YORK, May 13.—Advises from near Caracas, Argentine republic, give the details of the murder of a family of four by the order of the Mafia.

They were Ricardo Solazzi, his wife and two sons. They had incurred the enmity of Lued Solazzi because they did not encourage his attentions to Lenora Solazzi, niece of Monari's wife, who lived with them.

Monari had several quarrels in February. Monari received notes signed Roberto Fraconci, president of the Mafia, commanding him to give Lenora to Solazzi on pain of death.

Appropriate papers and Solazzi's demand for the girl. On the night of March 5, while the family slept, six masked men, armed with knives, entered the house and the elder Monari was stabbed to death.

The house was then set on fire and in the ensuing fight Solazzi and Mrs. Monari and two sons were killed. Lenora escaped by hiding. The Mafia then put the bodies of the murdered family into the river, but they afterwards floated and were found.

Documents on Solazzi's body showed that he and his companions were members of the Mafia.

Affirmed.

The Superior Court Sustains the Verdict in the Taylor Case, who is Charged with Embezzlement.

Special to the Gazette.

TEXAS, May 13.—As noted, the court today, through Judge Davis in an able and exhaustive opinion, affirmed the Taylor case from Bowie county.

Taylor was a prominent citizen and real estate dealer in Taylor county, and was charged with embezzling \$3000 from a party with whom he transacted business.

There is a woman in the case and much evidence of a high sensational character was introduced in the trial. The sentence was three years in the penitentiary.

The motion denied of the third assignment was called in both courts today.

Acquitted.

Judge Bryant Orders an Acquittal in a Case Because the State has no "Negligent Homicide" Law.

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PARIS, Tex., May 13.—Dave Harris was tried yesterday in the Federal court on the charge of murdering Melvina Brown, and acquitted under instruction of Judge Bryant, as the case lacked the feature of murder, but would have come under the law of negligent homicide if the United States had such a law.

The woman lived at Harris' house, and coming home one night failed to answer when called, and Harris shot through the closed door fatally wounding her. Her excuse for hasty shooting was that she had been threatened, and he thought it a night attack after the usual Indian Territory style.

Waterproof Near Event.

Special to the Gazette.

EVANS, Tex., May 13.—Parties coming to town this morning from the Cow House creek report a terrible waterproof that fell there last night, lasting not more than twenty minutes. But so great was the rainfall that the farms were over two feet deep in water and whole crops washed away, and even the loose soil. The farm of Mrs. Baker and Polk King was completely submerged and ruined. Old settlers say it

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